

NISC

Updates, News & Notes¹

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Department POC: H. Diaz-Soltero

E-mail: hilda.diaz-soltero@aphis.usda.gov

A. Update on the implementation of past recommendations/action items²:

December 2016 USDA Report to ISAC on progress implementing all ISAC recommendations since October 2003 is completed. It is available at the national website www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov

March 2004 Recommendations (R): ... identify... grants...for invasives. The “2017 USDA Grant & Partnership Programs That Can Address Research, Technical Assistance Prevention & Control” (Oct. 2016) is at www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov

Dec. 2010 R: Adopt the Invasive Species and the Climate Change paper & recommendations
All recommendations are being implemented at USDA. See www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov

Dec. 2011 R: Prepare report on the budget impacts to invasive species programs... USDA Funding for Inv. Species in thousands: FY14 Actual \$1,179,471; FY15 Actual \$1,241,089; FY16 enacted \$1,248.324; FY President’s Budget \$1,239,858. USDA data provided to NISC staff for **2017 Crosscut budget.**

May 2015 R: Conduct a survey and gap analysis of Federal systematics collections... Systematics needs assessment for ARS plant pathogens and fungi collections is completed; Action Plan in progress.

Oct. 2015 & July 2016 R: “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Biological Control Programs of Inv. Spp. by Utilizing IPM Approach.” Implementing two White Papers recommendations. See www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov

¹ Limit each section to one type written page. Links (URLs) to additional information are welcomed.

² Restate recommendation/action item and provide date of ISAC meeting.

B. Departmental news of relevance to ISAC priorities³:

Emerging issue: EDRR on invasive screwworm. This is an invasive species that impacts mammals and livestock feeding on fresh meat. It was eradicated in the US in the 1950's. APHIS established a facility in Panama to procreate biocontrol agents and assisted Panama in a long eradication effort. Now it has surfaced in the Florida Keys, at the Keys National Wildlife Refuge, impacting the endangered key deer. Early detection moved into immediate rapid response to eradicate the screwworm with APHIS, FL Dept. of Agriculture and Panama staff working jointly. The Key deer population is large and there is no expectation that this invasive event will cause extinction.

New Executive Order on Invasive Species. USDA agencies provided ideas and actively participated in reviews on a proposed new Invasive Species Executive Order. Requested ISAC be involved to provide input.

USDA Do No Harm Report for FY 2016 documenting agencies individual invasive species program accomplishments is available on <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/resources/orgfedusda.shtml>

USDA agencies report on FY 2016 work implementing the NISC Management Plan 2008 – Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, the Agricultural Research Service's National Agricultural Library, Foreign Agricultural Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspections Service have submitted their reports to NISC; other USDA agencies reports are in progress.

"National Assessment on Invasive Species Research in Forests and Grasslands" will be available December 31, 2016.

³ Focus on technical issues of substantial merit – release of reports, policy actions, etc.

C. Departmental notes of relevance to ISAC⁴:

USDA Research Forum on Invasive Species 2017 will be held in Annapolis, MD from 11-13 of January. Scientific and technical presentations on research and management will be given by US Forest Service, Agricultural Research Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, land grant universities and private research centers professionals.

⁴ Focus on organizational/logistical information relevant to ISAC – staff changes, upcoming meetings, etc.